

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on September 24, 2007.

Claims 5, 6 and 15 are amended, claims 1-4, 7- 14 and 16 - 30 are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 5, 6 and 15 are now pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 and 15 were both objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Both claims 6 and 15 have been amended in independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and all intervening claims. Claim 5 was amended to make that claim dependent upon allowable claim 6.

Reconsideration and allowance of amended claims 5, 6 and 15 is respectfully requested.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-2, 8, 10, 16-17, 22-23 and 27-29 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,367,071, hereinafter Cao) in view of Grantson (Grantson, Magdalene, Lexical Functional Grammar: Analysis and Implementation, Department of Computer Science, pp. 1-15, May 16, 2002, hereinafter Grantson).

Claims 3, 18 and 24 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cao in view of Grantson further in view of Karttunen et al. (Karttunen. Lauri et al., Twenty-Five Years of Finite-State Morphology, IEEE, pp. 71-83, 2003, hereinafter Karttunen).

Claims 4-5, 7, 9, 11-14, 19-21, 25-26 and 30 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cao in view of Grantson further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter, AAPA).

Each of the above rejections is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-4, 7- 14 and 16 – 30. Applicants reserve the right to resume prosecution of those and other claims in copending continuing applications.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

In the interest of clarity and brevity, Applicant may not have addressed every assertion made in the Office Action. Applicant's silence regarding any such assertion does not constitute any admission or acquiescence. Applicant reserves all rights not exercised in connection with this response, such as the right to challenge or rebut any tacit or explicit characterization of any reference or of any of the present claims, the right to challenge or rebut any asserted factual or legal basis of any of the rejections, the right to swear behind any cited reference such as provided under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, or the right to assert co-ownership of any cited reference. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited references or any other references of record are relevant to the present claims, or that they constitute prior art. To the extent that any rejection or assertion is based upon the Examiner's personal knowledge, rather than any objective evidence of record as manifested by a cited prior art reference, Applicant timely objects to such reliance on Official Notice, and reserves all rights to request that the Examiner provide a reference or affidavit in support of such assertion, as required by MPEP § 2144.03.

Applicant reserves all rights to pursue any cancelled claims in a subsequent patent application claiming the benefit of priority of the present patent application, and to request rejoinder of any withdrawn claim, as required by MPEP § 821.04.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney ((612) 373-6970) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

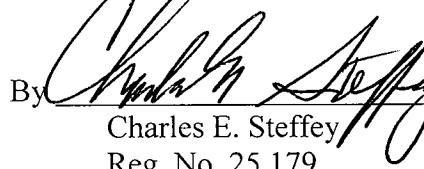
Respectfully submitted,

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Date

Feb 22, 2008

By


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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 22nd day of February 2008.

Name

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Signature

